

**MINUTES
OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
HUMAN RIGHTS & RELATIONS COMMISSION
June 25, 2013
7:00 P.M.**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Bigbee called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

II. ROLL CALL

Answering roll call were Commissioners Arsenault, Cashmore, Davis, Kingston, Seidman, Stanton, Winnick, Chair Bigbee and Student Member Stang. Staff present: Lisa Schaefer, Staff Liaison and Candy Fiedler, Administrative Staff.

III. APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

Commissioner Cashmore requested moving Agenda Item VI.D. to follow Agenda Item VI.A. and to add Item VI.G. which would be Commissioner Winnick speaking about his Meeting with the Chief. Motion was made by Commissioner Stanton to approve the meeting agenda of the June 25, 2013 meeting as presented with the above changes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Davis. Ayes: Bigbee, Arsenault, Cashmore, Davis, Kingston, Seidman, Stanton and Winnick. Motion carried.

IV. ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes-Regular Meeting of May 28, 2013

Motion was made by Commissioner Stanton to approve the consent agenda with the suggested revisions of removing his name from the motions because he was not at the meeting; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Cashmore.

Ayes: Bigbee, Arsenault, Cashmore, Davis, Kingston, Seidman, Stanton and Winnick. Motion carried.

V. COMMUNITY COMMENT

There were no community comments.

VI. REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Introduce New Commission Member.

Chair Bigbee asked those present to introduce themselves and to welcome the new Commissioner, Patrice "Pat" Arsenault.

B. Select HSTF Member.

Commissioner Stanton corrected the Action to change Hennepin South Services Collaborative to Human Services Task Force. He explained that he has been on this Task Force for two years now which deals with services such as women's shelters, VEAP, food shelves, and senior citizen services. The Task Force recommends and prioritizes grants to the City Council to fund these services. Commissioner Stanton said this was his last year to serve on the Task Force and asked those present if there was someone interested in taking over. Commissioner Arsenault volunteered to take the position. Commissioner Winnick added that he is already involved with another committee, the Edina Community Council, and since the Council deals with the disbursement of funds

for the Human Services Task Force, he should not be on both ends. He did however, offer to help and work with Commissioner Arsenault.

Motion was made by Commissioner Kingston and seconded by Commissioner Cashmore to approve the appointment of Commissioner Arsenault to serve on the Human Services Task Force.

Ayes: Bigbee, Arsenault, Cashmore, Davis, Kingston, Seidman, Stanton and Winnick.
Motion carried.

C. Select Living Streets Committee Member.

Chair Bigbee summarized what the Living Streets Committee is about to those Commissioners who were not present at the last meeting to hear the presentation. Chair Bigbee explained that this was a personal interest of his and if no others were interested in becoming a member, he would be happy to.

Motion was made by Commissioner Kingston to nominate Chair Bigbee to serve as a Living Streets Committee member and seconded by Commissioner Davis.

Ayes: Bigbee, Arsenault, Cashmore, Davis, Kingston, Seidman, Stanton and Winnick.
Motion carried.

D. Select Community Outreach Working Group Members.

Commissioner Davis reported that she and Commissioner Cashmore were following up and interviewing all of the people who applied to be on this group. She said she had three people for sure that wanted to be on the working group and it will be exciting for the new members to decide exactly what the group will do. She said they can still use a couple more people to commit and they should have the group formed by the end of the week.

Commissioner Cashmore said that they also could have a representative from the high school, the Police Department and Park and Recreation Department, so they need to determine where the talents are when selecting members. There should be a cap of three, four or at the most, five people in the group. Commissioner Kingston questioned how many people were on the list to select from and Commissioner Davis said there were seven but one could not be considered because they are a Bloomington resident. Staff Liaison Schaefer clarified that for Commissions, members are required to be Edina residents but for Working Groups they do not have to be. Commissioner Cashmore stated that this item should be firmed up and added as an agenda item for the July meeting.

E. Work Plan Revisions for Council.

A revision of the Proposed Work Plan Additions handout was given to those present. The major revision was the inclusion of the last paragraph on the second page.

i. Explore support opportunities for Victims of Domestic Violence.
There are no changes to this item.

ii. Additional anti-bullying event and/or education.

Commissioner Kingston made a motion to move this item to 2014. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Seidman.

Ayes: Bigbee, Arsenault, Davis, Kingston, Seidman, Stanton and Winnick. Motion carried.

Chair Bigbee then explained that Staff Liaison Schaefer had forwarded an email from the NFL to the members of the HRRC which was originally sent by the Mayor for HRRC review.

The cost for this item would be from \$500 to \$5000. Commissioner Kingston said that it was necessary to determine the role of the HRRC and proposed to look at this item in 2014. Chair Bigbee said he personally would not recommend this and it appears to be something more appropriate for the School District to look at. Commissioner Winnick said he thought we should respond to the Mayor. When he reviewed the document, it appeared to be national in scope - two celebrities and a famous sportscaster are all from the East Coast. If the hook is to use celebrities, Edina is the home to many celebrity athletes and we should consider bringing them in, adding we do not need a franchise program. When we consider an anti-bullying event, it makes sense for the School District to continue with their program. We could work with the Park Department to develop a program if necessary, but this is not feasible for the month of July.

Motion was made by Commissioner Winnick to forward the above comments to the Mayor. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kingston.

Ayes: Bigbee, Arsenault, Davis, Kingston, Seidman, Stanton and Winnick. Motion carried.

iii. Quasquicentennial Event.

Chair Bigbee said he felt a few additions were necessary to be included in the Explanation of the Addition. Commissioner Winnick said he had checked and confirms the examples listed. Commissioner Stanton said Edina was one of the first cities to adopt a Human Rights Ordinance in the 60's and thought this could be added. Chair Bigbee suggested adding "and more recent events such as the City's adoption of the Human Rights Ordinance" to the Explanation of Addition for this item. Commissioner Davis questioned if Voter ID should be included. Commissioner Kingston asked if we needed to list everything, or just examples. She said she thought we should highlight the key items and Commissioner Lagerstrom will help put together the entire timeline. Commissioner Seidman suggested that any additions to the list be sent to Commissioners Cashmore and Lagerstrom to be sure all items are captured for this process. Chair Bigbee concluded that the comments such as the City's Adoption of the Human Rights Ordinance should be added to the list of items in the Explanation of Addition section.

iv. Community Listening Sessions (Training and Listening Sessions)

Chair Bigbee summarized what the sessions were and asked for input from the other Commissioners. It was explained that this is a subset item to be run by Commissioners Cashmore and Davis. There was discussion as to how long the sessions were and how many people could be at the sessions. Chair Bigbee asked for input and explained they were approximately two hours each for both the Training and Listening sessions and if the Commission would like, they could invite Richfield, Eden Prairie, or other commissions or people from our police

department. Commissioner Davis clarified that the people who get the training will host sessions to train others. Chair Bigbee explained that the question of how many sessions depends on the ambition of the team setting this up and how many groups are decided on. He added about 20 to 30 people would be a good number per session. Chair Bigbee said the \$500 number was an estimate and dependent upon how many sessions were held and the number of people per session.

The completion dates were then discussed and Chair Bigbee said that the Training Sessions should be completed by November, 2013 and the Listening Sessions between November, 2013 and March, 2014. Commissioner Seidman said she thought dates should be a placeholder. Staff Liaison Schaefer reminded the Commission that changes in the deadline dates do not have to go to City Council; they anticipate dates are used for guidelines.

Chair Bigbee made the motion to add the revision of Adopting the Human Rights Ordinance to the Work Plan Quisquicentennial Event. Commissioner Seidman seconded the motion.

Ayes: Bigbee, Arsenault, Davis, Kingston, Seidman, Stanton and Winnick. Motion carried.

F. General Work Plan Updates.

Staff Liaison Schaefer explained that the 2013 HRRC Work Plan Status by Topic was revised and included updates from the last meeting so it reflected the current status.

Commissioner Seidman requested that the Days of Remembrance be put back on for 2014. She reported that Commissioners Cashmore and Kingston were working on this with her and would like two separate events for a week in April; one for Yom HaShoah and one for Holocaust Remembrance.

Commissioner Stanton questioned what they would need to do for a City Ordinance regarding Monitoring Domestic Partner Legislation. Commissioner Kingston reminded those present that the city registry is also for opposite gender couples. It was decided to add an Agenda Item next month for discussion of the major changes which took place with DOMA and Prop 8 from the Supreme Court's decision, and contact the City Attorney's office regarding any potential impact to the City's ordinance in preparation for September.

Commissioner Davis made the announcement that Student Member Mohtadi was voted "Most Likely to Change the World" and Student Member Stang was voted "Most Respected" by their high school senior classmates.

G. Update Bias/Hate Crimes Response Plan

Commissioner Winnick reported that they would like to change the date from July to August so that they have the opportunity to meet and discuss this with the Police Chief.

VII. CORRESPONDENCE AND PETITIONS

None.

VIII. CHAIR AND COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS

Commissioner Seidman reported there was one more day for student member interviews and a final decision would be made in August. Chair Bigbee added that we have excellent student members.

IX. STAFF COMMENTS

None

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business on the Commission Agenda, Chair Bigbee moved and Commissioner Stanton seconded adjournment of the meeting. Motion carried.

Chair Bigbee declared the meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Candy Fiedler, Administrative Staff

Minutes approved by HRRC, July 23, 2013

Arnie Bigbee, HRRC Chair